

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BELGRA 04952 191312Z

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ACTION NODS-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4189

S E C R E T BELGRADE 4952

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TAGS: PFOR, YO, AG, IR

SUBJ: EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI AGREEMENT-MESSAGE FROM
PRESIDENT FORD

REF: STATE 221524

DELIVERED LETTER TO ACTING FEDERAL SECRETARY FOR
FOREIGN AFFAIRS MOJSOV (TITO IN BRIONI). ALSO GAVE HIM
COPY OF YOUR CINCINNATI SPEECH. MOJSOV SAID FOLLOWING:

1. TITO HAD JUST RESPONDED TO LETTER FROM SADAT.
HE SAID TITO'S RESPONSE WAS ALONG THE LINES OF THEIR
PUBLIC POSITION REFERRED TO IN PRESIDENT FORD'S
LETTER BUT WAS MUCH SHORTER THAN SADAT'S LETTER
SINCE SADAT WAS PRESENTING THE ARGUMENTS AGAINST
HIS CRITICS. BY THAT I CONCLUDED THAT ALTHOUGH TITO
WAS SUPPORTIVE OF SADAT, HE WAS CAREFUL NOT TO BE
CRITICAL OF SADAT'S CRITICS. OF COURSE, TITO
EMPHASIZED IN HIS LETTER THE NEED FOR MOVING AHEAD
QUICKLY ON OTHER NEGOTIATIONS SO THAT SINAI AGREEMENT
DOES NOT STAND ALONE TOO LONG AND HE PARTICULARLY
EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF THE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN
PEOPLE.

2. TOLD ME TITO HAD DIRECTED A REVIEW OF THE WHOLE
QUESTION WHICH WOULD BE FINISHED IN A WEEK OR TWO SO
PRESIDENT FORD'S LETTER WAS QUITE TIMELY AND, AS HE
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PUT IT, VERY INTERESTING. HE INDICATED THAT YOUR MEETING

WITH MINIC IN NEW YORK WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY INCLUDE A LENGTHY DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT AND THAT MINIC WAS PLANNING TO TALK WITH ARAB MINISTERS THERE ALSO. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THEY WERE IN CONTINUOUS CONTACT WITH ALL ARAB GROUPS.

3. HE ASKED ME WHY PRESIDENT FORD'S LETTER MENTIONED ONLY ALGERIA AND IRAQ SINCE THE MAJOR OPPOSITION HAD COME FROM ASSAD. HE WENT ON TO INDICATE SURPRISE THAT ASSAD HAD REFUSED TO RECEIVE SADAT'S EMISSARY TO DISCUSS THE SETTLEMENT AND SOME SHOCK AT ASSAD'S TRIP TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND THE ENSUING STRONG CRITICAL COMMUNIQUE. I TOLD HIM HONESTLY THAT I DID NOT KNOW WHY SYRIA OMITTED ALTHOUGH I HAD THE SAME QUESTION. HE WENT ON TO SPECULATE THAT WE MIGHT HAVE SOME PRIVATE ASSURANCES FROM SYRIA. I TOLD HIM I WOULD RELAY HIS QUESTION TO YOU DIRECTLY.

4. I EMPHASIZED THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF THE LETTER AND THAT YOU HAD COMMUNICATED IT TO ME DIRECTLY.
SILBERMAN

SECRET

NNN

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